

## NO SUNDAY SALES

• THE CONNECTICUT PACKAGE STORES ASSOCIATION (CPSA)

• CONNECTICUT POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION (CPCA)

• CONNECTICUT PREVENTION NETWORK (SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCILS)

 CONNECTICUT COALITION TO STOP UNDERAGE DRINKING (CCSUD-PART OF THE GOVERNOR'S PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP)

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS UNIONS

CONNECTICUT BEER WHOLESALERS ASSOCIATION (CBWA)

CONNECTICUT WINE AND SPIRIT WHOLESALERS

Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak and members of the General Law Committee:

We the undersigned organizations formed a combined partnership several years ago to address problems of access to alcohol for the underage population and adult problem drinkers. Each of our organizations found common purpose in opposing any additional days or hours of sale or expansion of wine or spirits sales to food stores or changes which encourage or ease the sale to minors or those with substance abuse problems.

There is no new revenue in such a proposal to the state. Package stores know their business and they know that they will only see a shift in beer sales to food stores that have no overhead to staff on Sundays. The loss of package store jobs would result in 500 jobs statewide. We also estimate the loss of at least 100 beer and spirit wholesaler sales jobs, warehouse personnel and truck drivers who currently service those stores. The loss of retail rents and vitality to a municipality could also be devastating, especially since package stores are one of the last remaining main street stores.

The cost to municipalities and the state (DCP) for indirect cost for Sunday sales is also significant. Any such proposals add to the cost of municipal police departments, DCP, DPS and their staffing needs because they will need to increase their monitoring of retail outlets, investigate more DUI's¹ and accidents and domestic violence cases² triggered by alcohol. In 2009 alone of the 21,018 family violence offenses alcohol or drugs was involved in 6,942 cases.³

Social service costs for treatment of people with alcohol problems has increased substantially, so any proposal to expand days or hours of sale or expand products at retail outlets should be accompanied by increased money from the state to help combat these issues.

Adding an additional day of sale on Sunday to the state's food markets will also result in an increase in underage sales. Sunday is not just another day of sale but an additional day on the weekend when most underage drinkers attempt to purchase alcohol. The following statistic of the percentage of stores that failed in underage sting operations should cause alarm:

2007: Food Markets: 29.47% Package Stores: 25.11% 2008: Food Markets: 25.71% Package Stores: 22.54% 2009: Food Markets: 23.25% Package Stores: 13.31% 2010: Food Markets: 26.47% Package Stores: 22.70% \*Source: The CT Coalition to Stop Underage Drinking

We appreciate your consideration of our deep concerns for expanding days or hours of sale or adding wine and liquor sales to additional retail venues.

Best Regards,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>"McMillan GP and Lapham S. "Effectiveness of Bans and Laws in Reducing Traffic Deaths: Legalized Sunday Packaged Alcohol Sales and Alcohol-Related Traffic Crashes and Crash Fatalities in New Mexico." American Journal of Public Health, 96(11): 1944-1948, 2006."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>"The risk of assaultive violence and alcohol availability in Los Angeles County."R A Scribner, D P MacKinnon, and J H Dwyer.American Journal of Public Health. 1995.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Alcohol Availability and Intimate Partner Violence Among US Couples." Christy M. McKinney, Raul Caetano, Theodore Robert Harris, and Malembe S. Ebama.From the University of Texas Houston School of Public Health, Dallas, Texas 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Family violence arrest data submitted to the Department of Public Safety prior to August 17, 2010.

Alan Wilensky

President, CT Package Stores Association (CPSA) Chief James Strillacci

James Stulker

Co-Chair, CT Police Chief's Association (CPCA) Legislative Committee Chief Anthony Salvatore

Co-Chair, CT Police Chief's Association (CPCA) Legislative Committee

Craig Turner

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